

# BOOK REVIEWS



Numerous publishing houses have been most kind in sending along copies of their latest DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM publications for review. For example, from the Osprey Publishing Company in England we have the first three volumes in its series titled DESERT STORM Specials. They are LAND POWER: THE COALITION AND IRAQI ARMIES, by Tim Ripley (1991. 64 Pages, Softbound); AIR POWER: THE COALITION AND IRAQI AIR FORCES, by Roy Braybrook (1991, 64 Pages, Softbound); and SEA POWER: THE COALITION AND IRAQI NAVIES, by Peter Gilchrist (1991, 64 Pages, Softbound).

Each one has an authoritative text supplemented by numerous and previously unpublished photographs, plus maps, charts, and other graphics. The sea power volume is arranged differently from the other two, in that it lists by country the various combatant vessels each participant furnished or, in the case of Iraq, the vessels it had on hand in August 1990.

Then we have a most attractive and well-done publication from the Turner Publishing Company. It is titled CNN: WAR IN THE GULF, by Thomas B. Allen, F. Clifton Berry, Jr., and Norman Polmar (1991. 240 Pages. \$19.95, Softbound). The authors have prepared a solid narrative, and the publisher has nicely complemented it with a wide variety of photographs (most in full color), maps, and other graphic devices. The result is an attractive, readable, nicely designed large-format publication.

Following three introductory chapters that set the stage, the authors discuss the U.S. decision for war (after an "erratic march to war"), the build-up of U.S. and coalition forces ("the oldest U.S. military force to be sent into the field since the Civil War"), the air and naval campaigns, the Iraqi reaction, and the final preparations for and conduct of the ground war. The authors conclude their narratives with the events immediately following the cease-fire agreement — up to 28 April 1991 — and offer their thoughts on what the future holds for Iraq.

As might be expected, the authors make a spirited defense of CNN's coverage of the war and base it largely on the grounds that since both sides were censoring the news,

CNN's reports, particularly those from Baghdad, could easily be equated with those "from 'military-escorted' news pools in Saudi Arabia." Thus, the war with Iraq may (or may not) be over, but the "war" between the military services and the news media continues, without a real cease-fire agreement in sight.

A book similar to CNN's in some respects but different in many others is DESERT STORM: THE WAR IN THE PERSIAN GULF, by the Editors of TIME Magazine. Edited by Otto Friedrich (A TIME Book, distributed by Little, Brown. 1991. 232 Pages. \$19.95). It contains more maps (a separate one that has been used by TIME before), charts, and other graphics. The writers do cover the military actions but seem more interested in other events.

Although they address the problems encountered by the news media and their personnel and activities, they prefer the offense to the defense and mount a strong attack on the military services' news policies as implemented in the Persian Gulf regions. (They certainly do not want to believe that U.S. public opinion was so overwhelmingly against them.)

All in all, the writers apparently intend to convince their readers that there was indeed a gigantic protest movement against the war in the U.S., and that the U.S. was responsible for encouraging Iraq to invade Kuwait. As a result, the U.S. is also responsible for the destruction of Kuwait, the damage to the world's environment caused by the oil well fires and the oil spill in the Gulf, and the deaths of untold numbers of civilians.

Here are several other publications you should find of interest:

- **WEAPONS OF DESERT STORM.** Introduction and Consultation by Walter J. Byrne (Publications International, Limited, 7373 N. Cicero Avenue, Lincolnwood, IL 60646. 1991. 96 Pages. \$7.95, Softbound).

- **H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF: ROAD TO TRIUMPH,** by M.E. Morris. A St. Martin's Paperback (St. Martin's, 1991. 287 Pages. \$4.99, Softbound). This is really more the author's view of the war rather than a strict biographical account. Several

minor errors to look out for: McCaffrey was the commander of the U.S. 24th Infantry Division, not McGaffrey; he was a major general, not a lieutenant general; and LRS units are not part of the Special Forces.

- **THE GENERALS: THE NEW AMERICAN HEROES,** by Bill Adler (Avon Books, 1991. 215 Pages. \$4.50, Softbound). Grit your teeth when you read this one, for the author seems to know next to nothing about military force structure and organization.

- **GULF WAR: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO PEOPLE, PLACES, AND WEAPONS,** by Walter J. Byrne (Publications International, 1991. 224 Pages. \$4.95, Softbound). Similar to this same publisher's book mentioned three titles above, but includes a brief country-by-country survey.

Operation JUST CAUSE continues to receive its share of attention from the publishing houses. Two of the most recent titles we have seen are PANAMA: THE WHOLE STORY, by Kevin Buckley (Simon and Schuster, 1991. 304 Pages. \$21.95) and THE ENEMY WITHIN: CASTING OUT PANAMA'S DEMON. Text by Kenneth Jones. Picture Editor, Roberta G. Jones (Focus Publications, Panama, 1990. Available from JAM, P.O. Box 5371, Brownsville, TX 78523. 160 Pages. \$21.95).

Both are journalistic, not historical, accounts, the first told largely in words, the second in pictures. Kevin Buckley's is not the "whole" story, because there are too many missing pieces. But it does offer a detailed explanation of certain events that occurred in Panama between September 1985 and December 1989 involving mainly Panamanian citizens that eventually led to the U.S. military operation and the overthrow of General Manuel Antonio Noriega. He uses secondary sources for the most part and an apparent large number of "confidential sources." He is not kind to the U.S. military services, particularly General Maxwell Thurman, or the U.S. Department of State. Unfortunately, he does not tie the events together and they seem to have affected only a handful of the people. He does not go beyond the events to show how the bulk of the people of Panama reacted to them.

The second book covers much the same ground, but uses a sparse narrative and a

large number of four-color photographs and succinct captions (not all correct) to tell the overall story. Although there are numerous typographical and grammatical errors, the photographs make this a worthwhile book for anyone interested in Panama and in Operation JUST CAUSE.

And because we like maps, we believe you will find these to be most interesting and useful:

- **U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATION ROAD MAP**, 1991 Edition (Military Living Publications, P.O. Box 2347, Falls Church, VA 22042-0347. \$5.95 for a single, folded map, \$15.00 for two wall maps unfolded in a hard tube). Shows the location of military installations and recreation areas all across the country. It also identifies the major support facilities at each installation and offers other useful information.

- **ATLAS OF EASTERN EUROPE**, AUGUST 1990. U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (USGPO S/N 041-015-00170-1. 39 Pages. \$16.00, Softbound). Brings together, through maps and charts, a variety of geographical, political, historical, and economic information to profile the region and its constituent states. Some of the maps have been adjusted to reflect East Germany's transitional status.

Finally, airborne enthusiasts should want to become familiar with **THE PARACHUTE PAGES**. Compiled and Edited by Kathryn G. Omelchuck (Skydiving Book Service, P.O. Box 1520, DeLand, FL 32721. 176 Pages. \$19.95, Softbound). This publication contains more than 2,900 entries, including manufacturers, suppliers, dealers, lofts, associations, publications, consultants, and parachute drop zones. Information for more than 70 countries is included and the book is extensively cross-referenced.

Now here are our longer reviews:

- **THE CRUCIBLE OF WAR, VOLUME I: WESTERN DESERT, 1941**. By Barrie Pitt. Originally published in England in 1980. (Paragon House, 1989. A Giniger Book. 506 Pages. \$24.95).

**THE CRUCIBLE OF WAR, VOLUME II: YEAR OF ALAMEIN, 1942**. By Barrie Pitt. Originally published in England in 1982. (Paragon House, 1990. A Giniger Book. 478 Pages. \$24.95). Both books reviewed by Major Harold E. Raugh, Jr., United States Army.

The first publication in the United States of these two books is to be applauded. Both volumes distill numerous lessons from desert warfare that British forces fighting in that environment learned the hard way during World War II.

The first volume chronicles in rich detail the often-neglected campaigns of General Wavell in Egypt as well as in Italian East Africa, Iraq, and Syria. It also includes his replacement by General Auchinleck in July 1941 and the latter's Operation CRUSADER.

The second volume begins with the post-CRUSADER period and tells of the battles of Alam Halfa and 1st Alamein. It includes the arrival of Generals Alexander and Montgomery, who defeated General Rommel at 2d Alamein, a battle that sounded the death knell for the Axis forces in North Africa.

Impeccably researched, vividly written, lavishly illustrated, these two volumes lay out in great detail the British campaigns conducted by Wavell, Auchinleck, and Alexander in North Africa. They make a welcome addition to any Infantryman's or military enthusiast's bookshelf.

**BATTLE TACTICS OF THE CIVIL WAR**. By Paddy Griffith (Yale University Press, 1989. 239 Pages. \$25.00). Reviewed by Major Don Rightmyer, United States Air Force.

Was the American Civil War the last of the Napoleonic conflicts, the first of the modern wars, or a transition between the two? That's just one of the numerous subjects the author, a well known British military historian, discusses in this book. He also provides an excellent treatment of a subject seldom discussed in our published Civil War studies — the tactical employment and use of ground forces on the battlefield.

In the span of eight chapters, the author gives us a tremendous amount of interesting research on and analysis of tactical command and control, drill, the battlefield and fortifications, artillery, cavalry, the infantry firefight and the primary weapon used by both sides — the rifle.

His is a highly readable narrative that offers numerous insights into the battle formations and tactics used by both armies. Although it is by no means the definitive work on Civil War tactics, it certainly provides a worthwhile and helpful discussion of how the Blue and the Gray went about fighting their war.

**FIRE IN THE STREETS: THE BATTLE FOR HUE, TET 1968**. By Eric Hammel (Contemporary Books, 1991. 371 Pages. \$24.95). Reviewed by Doctor Joe P. Dunn, Converse College.

Most of Eric Hammel's 14 previous

military history books focus on U.S. Marines in combat. He has also justly earned his reputation as the premier popular combat historian of the Vietnam War.

This hourly, day-by-day account follows the pattern he employed in his previous works — an extensive reliance on command chronologies and after action reports supplemented by extensive interviews with participants.

Written in a lively, readable style, it is the most complete and detailed account of this central action of the war. The reader easily becomes caught up in the emotion, drama, and personal sagas of the battle. It is highly recommended for those who are interested in such intimate battle accounts.

**WAR IN KOREA, 1950-1953**. By D.M. Giangreco (Presidio Press, 1990. 330 Pages. \$40.00). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Donald C. Snedeker, United States Army.

This book, in reality a photographic history of the war, is definitely worth the asking price. Each of the more than 500 black-and-white photographs assembled by the author tells its own story. Taken together, they tell the whole story. Each U.S. military service, each branch, each ally, civilian and soldier alike, is represented. The pictures tell real stories of real people, with names and dates and places.

It is this aspect of the book that sets it apart from most of its contemporaries. The photo captions help a reader grasp the significance of what the photos depict — the fear, the cold, the grief, the shared emotions of men and women involved in man's most fearsome adventure — war.

**THE LIMITS OF AIR POWER: THE AMERICAN BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM**. By Mark Clodfelter (The Free Press, 1989. 297 Pages. \$22.95). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Jack Mudie, United States Air Force Retired.

This book describes three bombing campaigns launched by the United States against North Vietnam — **ROLLING THUNDER**, the on-again, off-again (March 1965-October 1968) attempt using Air Force and Navy tactical aircraft to destroy North Vietnam's war-making capability and will to fight; **LINEBACKER I** (May-October 1972), which included the aerial mining of Haiphong harbor, to convince North Vietnam to begin serious negotiations to reach a peace accord; and **LINEBACKER II** (18-29 December 1972), the so-called B-52 Christmas bombing campaign against Hanoi-

Haiphong to stop, once and for all, North Vietnam's intransigence at the Paris peace talks. (The peace agreement was signed 25 days after LINEBACKER II's last mission.)

The author, a professor of history at the U.S. Air Force Academy when he wrote this book, faults Air Force leaders for believing that the destruction by air power of an aggressor nation's industrial capability would soon halt its aggression. They had failed to foresee its effect on determined North Vietnamese political leaders for whom the loss of electric lights and return to candles (or use of portable generators) was not that much of a regression or relative hardship.

The author says that air power can be effective in attaining a lasting military solution only when it is pursuing a clear political goal. This was not the case under President Lyndon Johnson; it was true under President Richard Nixon's administration.

This book should be read by civilian leaders and military professionals alike, because it contributes to a better understanding of the separate problems each group faces in pursuit of a common objective. Unfortunately, a mutually satisfactory overall objective was never clearly defined in Vietnam.

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**THE GREAT CRUSADE.** By H.P. Willmott (The Free Press, 1989. 500 Pages. \$24.95). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Cole C. Kingseed, United States Army.

In recent years there has been a massive outpouring of publications commemorating the 50th anniversary of World War II. Unfortunately, most have espoused the conventional interpretation of the origins and conduct of the war and have varied little from those of the first postwar generation of historians in 1945.

In this book, the author's fresh reappraisal of the war will greatly interest all students of this century's major conflict. By focusing on the relationship between power and military force, he examines political and economic factors, as well as military capabilities, in his analysis of the conduct of the war.

What makes his reappraisal so interesting is his willingness to question the traditional schools of historical interpretation. He rejects the "great man" approach to history because he believes total war is waged by states, societies, and systems, not individuals. Consequently, he views the struggle in the North African desert not as a Montgomery-Rommel clash but rather as a conflict

decided by the overwhelming military and economic strength of the Western allies.

Willmott also refutes what he terms the "pernicious myth" of German military excellence. He feels that German military genius lay in fighting, not waging war, and posits that the Axis lost the industrial and economic struggle as early as 1943.

Interestingly, Willmott argues that none of the combatants gained the objectives it held when it entered the war. Even the United States was forced to decide how to use its postwar power: to preserve the status quo or change it.

In the final analysis, the author concludes that if one considers the alternative to Allied victory, perhaps the human cost of 57 million dead and the attendant massive destruction were, in the balance of history, a relatively small price to pay for ridding the world of depraved wickedness. That assessment alone makes this book mandatory reading for the present generation of students of World War II.

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**HEROES OF WORLD WAR II.** By Edward F. Murphy (Presidio Press, 1990. 365 Pages. \$24.95). Reviewed by Major General Albert H. Smith, Jr., United States Army Retired.

This book is great reading for combat veterans of all of our military services, for the author describes how individual warriors influenced an action or saved the day in battle after battle in all theaters of World War II from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day.

Unlike official military compilations, the book devotes a page or two to biographical information for each Medal of Honor recipient whose story is highlighted. For example, the reader learns a lot about Captain Bobbie Brown — that he was age 37, that he had already served 22 years in the Army, that he was an expert marksman, and that he had been a star boxer and football player during his early enlistments — before reading any discussion of his Medal of Honor feat.

Then there is the story of Signalman 1st Class Douglas A. Monroe, the only U.S. Coast Guardsman to earn the Medal during World War II. In charge of nine small boats, Monroe somehow managed to evacuate 500 wounded Marines from a fire-swept Pacific invasion beach. Tragically, he was killed by bullets from a Japanese machinegun during the final minutes of his valiant endeavor.

Ed Murphy is a master storyteller, and he makes these and many other battle accounts come alive for history buffs of all ages. His book is also a fine reference

volume, because it contains a comprehensive index that lists each Medal of Honor recipient: 294 Army and Army Air Corps, 57 Navy, 81 Marine, and 1 Coast Guard. The 24 pages of photographs and a well-organized index are also definite pluses. It is a recommended addition to a military professional's personal library.

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**THE NAPOLEONIC SOURCEBOOK.** By Philip Haythornthwaite (Facts on File, 1990. 414 Pages). Reviewed by Colonel John S. Spence III, United States Army Reserve.

The author, a leading British expert on the Napoleonic period, has compiled an impressive work of encyclopedic proportions. This single volume is conveniently divided by subject matter: the campaigns, the weapons and practice of war, the involved nations, and the key military leaders.

The book is concisely, yet nicely written, and its organization makes it easy for a reader to get the important facts and figures the author offers. The various major battles of the Napoleonic era are set forth in detail to reflect the art of war as it was in the early 19th Century. There is also an excellent table that includes information on all of the major battles.

The military professional can learn important lessons from this book. All readers are bound to be impressed by the sheer volume of factual material the author presents, as well as by the original paintings of the period and the detailed drawings of a number of the battles.

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**BRITISH INTELLIGENCE IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR: VOLUME 5, STRATEGIC DECEPTION.** By Michael Howard (Cambridge University Press, 1990. 271 Pages. \$34.50). Reviewed by Captain Richard P. Ugino, United States Army National Guard.

This, the fifth volume of the official history of British intelligence activities during World War II, centers on the efforts of the British first, then the Allied contributions in the matter of strategic deception, culminating in the deception operations used during the preparations for the D-Day landings in France in June 1944.

Although the author uses recently declassified information in writing his study, much of what the book contains can be found in other, more entertaining books on the same topic.

While the British are to be commended for leading the way in developing intelligence

that went hand-in-hand with security, the author seems to suffer from selective memory-loss when he examines their overall efforts. Conspicuously absent, for example, is any mention of the SOE and its operations.

Much of the book's premise depends on a reader's knowledge of the overall intelligence operations conducted by all sides, and the book is difficult to follow without this knowledge. Thus, this is a book far better read by the military intelligence historian than by the general reader.

## RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

**GERONIMO!: AMERICAN PARATROOPERS IN WORLD WAR II.** By William B. Breuer. St. Martin's Press, 1989. 621 Pages. \$29.95.

**A BRIGHT SHINING LIE.** By Neil Sheehan. A Vintage Book. Random House, 1989. 861 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound.

**THE FIRST SALUTE: A VIEW OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.** By Barbara W. Tuchman. Ballantine Books, 1989. 347 Pages. \$11.95, Softbound.

**PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AND STRATEGY MANAGEMENT: A STUDY IN DEFENSE POLITICS.** By Douglas Kinnard. A Pergamon-Brassey's Classic. An AUSA Institute of Land Warfare Book. Pergamon-Brassey's, 1989. Originally published in 1977. 169 Pages. \$16.91.

**LINEBACKER: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE AIR RAIDS OVER NORTH VIETNAM.** By Karl J. Eschmann. Ballantine Books, 1989. 273 Pages. \$4.95, Softbound.

**EYE-DEEP IN HELL: TRENCH WARFARE IN WORLD WAR I.** By John Ellis. Originally published in hardcover in 1977. The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989. 215 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound.

**VIETNAM NOW: A CASE FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH HANOI.** By John LeBoutillier. Praeger, 1989. 144 Pages. \$18.95.

**ARMS CONTROL AND EUROPEAN SECURITY.** Edited by Graeme P. Auton. Praeger, 1989. 205 Pages. \$39.95.

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION: THE ANALYTIC HIERARCHY APPROACH.** By Thomas L. Saaty and Joyce M. Alexander. Praeger, 1989. 252 Pages. \$49.95.

**THE FOUR DEUCES: A KOREAN WAR STORY.** By C.S. Crawford. Presidio, 1989. 288 Pages. \$18.95.

**TECHNOLOGY AND WAR: FROM 2000 B.C. TO THE PRESENT.** By Martin van Creveld. The Free Press, 1988. 342 Pages. \$22.95.

**BILL MAULDIN'S ARMY.** A Reprint of a Reprint. Third Printing, 1984. Presidio, 1984. 384 Pages. \$14.95, Softbound.

**FIFTH ARMY AT THE WINTER LINE, 15 NOVEMBER 1943-15 JANUARY 1944.** First printed by the Historical Division, War Department, for the American Forces in Action series, 1945. USGPO S/N 008-029-00198-5. CMH Pub 100-9. Center of Military History, 1990. 117 Pages. \$4.95, Softbound.

**SALERNO: AMERICAN OPERATIONS FROM THE BEACHES TO THE VOLTURNO, 9 SEPTEMBER-6 OCTOBER 1943.** First printed by the Historical Division, War Department, for the American Forces in Action series, 1944. USGPO S/N 008-029-00196-9. CMH Pub 100-7. Center of Military History, 1990. 95 Pages. \$4.00, Softbound.

**TO BIZERTE WITH THE II CORPS, 23 APRIL-13 MAY 1943.** First printed by the Historical Division, War Department, for the American Forces in Action series, 1943. USGPO S/N 008-029-00207-8. CMH Pub 100-6. Center of Military History, 1990. 80 Pages. \$4.75, Softbound.

**THE CAPTURE OF MAKIN, 20-24 NOVEMBER 1943.** First printed by the Historical Division, War Department, for the American Forces in Action series, 1946. USGPO S/N 008-029-00206-0. CMH Pub 100-2. Center of Military

History, 1990. 136 Pages. \$5.50, Softbound.

**FROM THE VOLTURNO TO THE WINTER LINE, 6 OCTOBER-15 NOVEMBER 1943.** First printed by the Historical Division, War Department, for the American Forces in Action series, 1945. USGPO S/N 008-029-00197-7. CMH Pub 100-8. Center of Military History, 1990. 119 Pages. \$4.75, Softbound.

**PAPUAN CAMPAIGN: THE BUNASANANDA OPERATION, 16 NOVEMBER 1942-23 JANUARY 1943.** First printed by the Historical Division, War Department, for the American Forces in Action series, 1945. USGPO S/N 008-029-00205-1. CMH Pub 100-1. Center of Military History, 1990. 107 Pages. \$4.50, Softbound.

**POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA.** By Tareq Y. Ismael and Jacqueline S. Ismael. Florida International University Press, 1991. 570 Pages. \$39.95.

**FLAGS OF THE NAPOLEONIC WARS (1).** Text by Terence Wise, color plates by Guido Rosignoli. Originally printed in 1978. Men-at-Arms Series 77. Osprey, 1991. 40 Pages. Softbound.

**FLAGS OF THE NAPOLEONIC WARS (2).** Text by Terence Wise, color plates by Guido Rosignoli. Originally printed in 1978. Men-at-Arms Series 78. Osprey, 1991. 40 Pages. Softbound.

**FLAGS OF THE NAPOLEONIC WARS (3).** Text by Terence Wise, color plates by Guido Rosignoli. Originally printed in 1981. Men-at-Arms Series 115. Osprey, 1991. 40 Pages. Softbound.

**THE FRENCH NAVY IN INDOCHINA: RIVERINE AND COASTAL FORCES, 1945-54.** By Charles W. Koburger, Jr. Praeger, 1991. 160 Pages. \$39.95.

**POLAND AND THE BALTIC REPUBLICS.** By Ronald L. Tarnstrom. A Volume in the 50 Centuries of Warfare Series. Trogen Books (Route 1, Box 4, Lindsborg, KS 67456), 1990. 175 Pages. \$19.95.

